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§ 110. *Portulaca oleracea*, L.—Is common purslane cleistogamous? Picking up a piece of purslane, while waiting for a train, I was struck by the fact that none of the many flowers on it seemed ever to have opened. Most of them were distinctly marked with the line of future dehiscence, and contained well formed ovules, the more advanced ones already turning brown. In the smallest flowers examined the ovules had assumed form, but the anthers had not yet discharged their pollen. In those a little larger this discharge had taken place, while in those still more advanced the deliquescent flower was entirely enclosed. In all of them the outer sepal embraced the inner, surmounting it with its pointed crest, and showing no signs of their ever having been parted for the display of the flower.

Considering how many competent observers have studied this plant, none of whom, I believe, has noticed its cleistogamy, and how little opportunity I have had for watching its flowering, it is with diffidence that I raise the question, and would be glad to have my notion confirmed or disproved.

In Le Maout and Decaisne, French edition, p. 442, are figures better illustrative of this point than Sprague's in Gray's Genera, particularly a section of an unopened flower. The aril-like expansion of the end of the funiculus does not appear in Le Maout and Decaisne's illustration, and is hardly adequately represented in Gray, Tab. 99, Figs. 8 and 9.

Sept. 17, 1881.

W. H. L.

§ 111. *Notes from Chemung County, New York.*—I had the good fortune to find on the fourth of July, 1881, good flowering plants of *Liparis Loeselii*, Richard. It was growing in patches on the moist ledges of the Wellesburg Narrows, amongst moss. This is the only locality for it known to me in this part of the State. In 1874 I found one specimen of *Cacalia atriplicifolia*, L., at the side of the railroad at Wellesburg, but have never seen another since. May the seed have been dropped from a passing train? I also found one clump of *Arisaema Dracontium*, Schott, and *Lophanthus scrophulariaefolius*, Benth., last season on the bank of the Chemung; *Lilium superbum*, L., also grows sparingly along the Chemung, and in 1874 I found there one specimen of *Cassia Marilandica*, L.

I will exchange for rare plants from other parts of New York, and desire to correspond with working botanists in all parts of the State.

Lowman, N. Y.

T. F. Lucy, M.D.

§ 112. *Notes on Polygala and Lechea.*—In August, while rambling about Cotuit Port, on the south shore of Cape Cod, I picked up a piece of *Polygala Senega*, L. in an open woods; there did not seem to be much of it just in that spot, and my companion, not being a botanist, did not leave me time to search for it at my leisure, especially as I had forgotten that this is further east than it has been reported. Not a great ways off, *Genista tinctoria*, L., was found growing thriftily in several patches.

Lechea maritima, nobis, *L. thymifolia*, Gray, not Pursh, abounds

about Cotuit. I saw no other species of *Lechea* abundant there; though *L. major*, Mchx., and *L. thymifolia*, Pursh, (*L. Novae-Caesareae*, Austin), are found in the vicinity. *L. maritima* was constantly under my eyes, but I never saw the flowers opened, till on a bleak, sunless day, during a northeasterly gale, about the 18th of August, I noticed that the *Lecheas* in a hollow through which I was passing were all in bloom. So different was the aspect of the plant, that it at once arrested attention. The next day, and the next, I found other patches in bloom, patches with which I was familiar, as they were near the house. Rosa, a child of ten, who knew pin-weed quite well, brought me a piece of the full-blown plant to learn its name. She did not recognize it in its new dress. The small petals were of a brownish-red, but the conspicuous stigmas were white with a yellowish tinge. This is the only time I have seen *Lechea* in full bloom.

W. H. L.

§ 113. **A large Grape-vine.**—In a wooded ravine near Egbertville, Staten Island, there is a vine of *Vitis cordifolia*, Michx., having a circumference of twenty-five and one-half inches at a point three feet above its base. It completely covers three cedar trees, each at least thirty feet high, and is a very beautiful plant.

N. L. B.

§ 114. **Cheilanthes myriophylla**, Desv.—I desire specimens of this fern, *with root-stocks*, from Mexico or South America, for a special study of the *Myriophylla-Fendleri* group of *Cheilanthes*.

I will be glad to communicate with any one who can put me in the way of obtaining them, and to return specimens of other species in exchange. Address,

Medford, Mass., U. S. A.

GEO. E. DAVENPORT.

§ 115. **Woodsia obtusa**, Torrey.—I would like to obtain some full suites of specimens of this species in different stages of development, from the Middle, Southern, or South-western States, and will be glad to make such exchanges for them as I can.

Medford, Mass.

GEO. E. DAVENPORT.

§ 116. **Botanical Notes.**—*A Locomotive Dicotyledon.*—An interesting case of voluntary motion among dicotyledonous plants, in a species of *Loranthus*, has been discovered by Dr. G. Watt, of the Educational Department, Bengal Lower Provinces, and made known in a recent number of the *Gardeners' Chronicle*. It is only while the seed is germinating that the motion takes place, but the mode of travelling is very peculiar and quite different from that of any other known plant. The plant is a native of Bengal, and like all other members of the genus is parasitical, growing upon a few evergreen trees, particularly upon some species of *Memecylon*. The fruit, like that of its relative, the mistletoe, and nearly all other members of the order, consists of a mass of very viscid pulp surrounding a single seed, and on separating from the parent plant adheres to whatever it may chance to fall upon, and after a time begins to germinate. It is